## Message Text

SECRET

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INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-03 INRE-00 SSO-00 IOE-00 /087 W

-----029831 091423Z /50

O 091400Z SEP 77 FM AMCONSUL MONTREAL TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 9407

SECRET MONTREAL 1494

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, EAIR, ICAO

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE REALIGNMENT OF LATIN AMERICAN CIVIL AVIATION

COMMISSION

REF: MONTREAL 1079

- 1. WE HAVE RECEIVED NO REPLY TO REFTEL.
- 2. MEXICO REPRESENTATIVE ACUNA ADVISES THAT CENDEJAS (DGCA) WILL BE IN MONTREAL SEPTEMBER 15, 16 ONLY AND WILL PROCEED TO WASHINGTON FOR BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS.
- 3. USREP ASKED ACUNA WHAT PRESENT THINKING WAS RE EARLIER DISCUSSION ABOUT A "NORTH AMERICAN CAC." (THINKING HE MIGHT HAVE FORGOTTEN IT OR HAD SECOND THOUGHTS.) HE INFORMED ME THAT HE GAVE MEXICO CITY AN "ANALYSIS" OF THE POSSIBILITY WHICH IN BRIEF IS AS FOLLOWS: (A) TECHNICALLY THERE IS NO DOUBT BUT WHAT SUCH AN ALIGNMENT WOULD BE TO EVERYONE'S ADVANTAGE ESPECIALLY MEXICO. (B) POLITICALLY, ALTHOUGH THEY WOULD CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF MEMBERSHIP IN BOTH CLAAC AND A NACAC, THERE IS NO DOUBT BUT WHAT THEY WOULD BE EXCLUDED BY CLAAC. (C) THIS EXCLUSION COULD ALSO ENTAIL MEXICO LOSING ITS COUNCIL SEAT. ACUNA ADVISED MEXICO CITY THAT THIS SHOULD BE REGARDED AS SECRET

**SECRET** 

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UNIMPORTANT COMPARED TO THE ADVANTAGES OF A CLOSE CAC ASSOCIATION WITH CANADA AND US, AND ESPECIALLY THE POSSIBILITY OF A CLOSER AVIATION RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US.

(D) A CANADA/US/MEXICO/CENTRAL AMERICA/CARIBBEAN CAC COINCIDES WITH ICAO "NORTH AMERICAN REGIONAL OFFICES" IN MEXICO CITY.
(E) HE POINTED OUT THAT WITH RESPECT TO TRAFFIC RIGHTS, MEXICO,

BECAUSE OF ITS STRATEGIC LOCATION, DOES NOT NEED FIFTH FREEDOM RIGHTS, BUT NEEDS A SOUND NA BASE FOR INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS -- WHILE THE SOUTH AMERICANS FOR EXAMPLE HAVE TO RELY VERY HEAVILY ON FIFTH FREEDOM.

4. HE BELIEVES THAT THE CA STATES ARE THE KEY AND WITH THEIR SIX COUNTRIES (VOTES) PLUS THREE, THE GROUPCOULD BE VIABLE AND INFLUENTIAL. IF THE PANAMA ISSUE IS RECONCILED FAVORABLY, HE FEELS THAT CENTRAL AMERICA WOULD SERIOUSLY CONSIDER COMING INTO A NEW CAC, PARTICULARLY BECAUSE OF THEIR DIFFERENCES WITH CLAAC POLICIES ON AIR TRANSPORT DEVELOPMENT AND TOURISM. HE FEELS THAT SOME CARIBBEAN COUNTRIES (AND HE MENTIONED DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ESPECIALLY) WOULD BE VERY LIKELY POSSIBILITY FOR JOINING NEW GROUP.

5. ONCE AGAIN HE SUGGESTED THAT IF THIS IDEA IS TO BE PURSUED, DISCUSSIONS SHOULD BE DURING ASSEMBLY BUT AFTER NEW COUNCIL IS ELECTED.

6. USREP REQUESTS RESPONSES TO THIS TELEGRAM AND REFTEL. HARPER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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TAGS: PORG, EAIR, MX, ICAO

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